



# BUDGET WEEK

Committee on the Budget • Majority Caucus  
U.S. House of Representatives  
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Summarizing budgetary issues in legislation  
scheduled for the House floor

4 February 2003

Week of 3 February 2003

## SUSPENSION CALENDAR

### 1) *Expressing the Condolences of the House of Representatives to the Families of the Crew Members of the Columbia Shuttle Mission*

This resolution has no budget implications.

## LEGISLATION CONSIDERED UNDER A RULE

**Bill:** ***Making Further Continuing Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2003***

**Committee:** Appropriations

**Summary:** When the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress adjourned, it had passed annual appropriations bills for fiscal year 2003 covering only defense and military construction. To address appropriations normally covered by the remaining 11 appropriations bills, Congress has passed a series of temporary stopgap measures known as continuing resolutions [CRs].

The measure scheduled for the floor this would be the eighth such CR for fiscal year 2003. It is necessary because the CR currently in place expires on 7 February. The Senate only recently completed action on an omnibus appropriations bill that would run through the end of the fiscal year; but that measure now must be negotiated with the House. In the mean time, this seventh CR – scheduled to run through 14 February – will maintain the Government's activities until its expiration date.

Other than the duration of the bill, few specifics on the continuing resolution [CR] were available at the time of preparation of this *Budget Week*. It is expected to be similar to the current CR. In general, the Budget Committee expects the new continuing resolution to fund all projects or activities authorized in fiscal year 2002 (other than one-time spending for emergency response activities) at the same rate of operations until either: 1) the enactment of an appropriations act (or omnibus appropriations measure) covering the project or activity; or 2) the expiration of the continuing resolution.

**Cost:** Though no estimate was available for the continuing resolution, it is expected to be substantially the same as the one currently in place. The Congressional Budget Office

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**PLEASE NOTE:** This document addresses budgetary issues only. It should not be taken to address support or opposition on any other grounds. A green flag indicates no serious budgetary or budget compliance concerns. A yellow flag indicates moderate or potential problems. A red flag indicates serious problems. *Also note: Floor schedules and legislative details are subject to change after publication.*

This document was prepared by the majority staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and therefore may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

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[CBO] estimates the current continuing resolution provides \$376.6 billion in discretionary budget authority for fiscal year 2003. That amount is \$11.7 billion below the fiscal year 2002 amount, including the cost of one-time appropriations.

**Budget Act:** This continuing resolution is not expected to exceed the Appropriations Committee’s 302(a) allocation – a level determined by the budget resolution. Therefore the measure would not be subject to a point of order, under the Congressional Budget Act, that could prevent it from being considered on the floor.